

Case 3283

***Cetonia albopicta* Gory & Percheron, 1833 (currently *Trichostetha albopicta*) and *Cetonia albopicta* Motschulsky, 1845 (currently *Oxythyrea albopicta*) (Insecta, Coleoptera): proposed conservation of the specific names**

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Abstract. The purpose of this application, under Article 23.9.5 of the Code, is to conserve the specific names *Cetonia albopicta* Gory & Percheron, 1833 (currently *Trichostetha albopicta*) and *Cetonia albopicta* Motschulsky, 1845 (currently *Oxythyrea albopicta*) (SCARABAEIDAE, CETONIINAE). Although *Cetonia albopicta* Gory & Percheron, 1833 and *Cetonia albopicta* Motschulsky, 1845 are primary homonyms they have never been in use simultaneously; the former had been removed from *Cetonia* before the latter was described. Both names are used for fruit chafers, the former from South Africa, the latter from the Caucasus region; they are classified in different tribes or subtribes and their names are in common use.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; *Oxythyrea albopicta*; *Trichostetha albopicta*; fruit chafers.

1. Gory & Percheron (1833, p. 256) described *Cetonia albopicta*, a fruit chafer from Southern Africa. The holotype is deposited in the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris (Holm & Marais, 1988, p. 59). The species was transferred to *Trichostetha* Burmeister, 1842 by Burmeister (1842, p. 402) where it has remained. *Trichostetha* is classified as belonging to the tribe DIPLOGNATHINI (see Holm & Marais, 1988).

2. Motschulsky (1845, p. 59) described *Cetonia albopicta*, a fruit chafer from southern Russia and the Caucasus. It was transferred to *Oxythyrea* Mulsant, 1842 by Kraatz (1880) where it has remained since. Kraatz published the paper written by an anonymous French author and is, therefore, responsible for this nomenclatural act. *Oxythyrea* is currently classified as belonging to the tribe CETONIINI, subtribe LEUCOCELINA (see Krikken, 1984, p. 59; Baraud, 1992, p. 818).

3. Reiche (1860, p. ccix) recognized the preoccupation of *Cetonia albopicta* Motschulsky and introduced the replacement name *Cetonia leucosticta*. This replacement name, though justified and formally correct, has not been used subsequently by any author. However, both *Trichostetha albopicta* (see Holm & Marais, 1988, p. 58; 1992, p. 157; Gäde et al., 1992, p. 133; Marais & Holm, 1992, p. 78; Krajčik, 1998, p. 85; Sakai & Nagai, 1998, p. 303) and *Oxythyrea albopicta* (see Kraatz, 1880; Medvedev, 1964, p. 116; 1965, p. 206; Kryzhanovskii, 1965, p. 142; Iablokov-Khnzorian, 1967, p. 205; Dzhambazishvili, 1979, p. 246; 1990, p. 58; Mikšić, 1982, p. 45; Nikolaev, 1987, p. 211; Baraud, 1992, p. 819; Krajčik, 1998, p. 69) have been used continuously.

4. Although *Cetonia albopicta* Gory & Percheron, 1833 and *Cetonia albopicta* Motschulsky, 1845 are primary homonyms, they have never been in use simultaneously, because the former had been removed from *Cetonia* before the latter was described. Considering the classification of *Oxythyrea albopicta* and *Trichostetha albopicta* in two different suprageneric groups (subtribes or tribes, depending on the author) that has been stable for a long time, it is not necessary to introduce the forgotten replacement name *Cetonia leucosticta* Reiche (a nomen oblitum), since *Oxythyrea albopicta* (Motschulsky) and *Trichostetha albopicta* (Gory & Percheron) will never become congeneric. Replacing the well-known name *Oxythyrea albopicta* would cause unnecessary confusion.

5. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary power to rule that the name *Cetonia albopicta* Motschulsky, 1845, as published in the binomen *Cetonia albopicta*, is not invalid by reason of being a junior primary homonym of *albopicta* Gory & Percheron, 1833, as published in the binomen *Cetonia albopicta*;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) *albopicta* Gory & Percheron, 1833, as published in the binomen *Cetonia albopicta*;
 - (b) *albopicta* Motschulsky, 1845, as published in the binomen *Cetonia albopicta*;
- (3) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology the name *Cetonia leucosticta* Reiche, 1860 (a nomen oblitum).

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Cetonia albopicta Gory & Percheron, 1833—original figure of holotype, pl. 49. fig. 1.